



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

THE RANDOLPH MANUSCRIPT.

VIRGINIA SEVENTEENTH CENTURY RECORDS.

From the Original in the Collection of the Virginia Historical Society.

(CONTINUED)

EXTRACTS FROM COUNCIL JOURNALS, 1686-1688.

November 9, 1686. The Assembly at the grand Inquest of the Country present a charge to the Governor against Colo. Wm. Fitzhugh¹ for cheating the County of Stafford of a certain Quantity of Tobacco and that they were ready with their Managers to Manage the Charge against him.

The Governor answers that they were not then sitting at a Court of Judicature but that they would take so much Notice of the Presentment as to Order the Attorney General to prosecute

¹On December 18, 1685, the House of Burgesses presented an address to the Governor stating that in 1682 the General Assembly ordered 32,000 pounds of tobacco to be paid to Colonel William Fitzhugh and Captain George Brent of Stafford county (probably for soldiers guarding against the Indians), and that after this Fitzhugh had, by his deceitful representations, induced the county court to pay him 6,000 additional, to which he had no claim, and asked that he be suspended from all his offices and brought to Jamestown for trial. The Governor refused to suspend him, but sent a warrant for his appearance. The Assembly was dissolved before he came. In November, 1686, the Burgesses renewed the charge, but still nothing was done, for at another session, May 3, 1688, the Governor, in response to a third address on the subject, stated that Fitzhugh's trial should begin at once. No farther reference to the case is extant in public records, but in a letter, dated April 5, 1687, William Fitzhugh states that during the preceding Assembly he was impeached formally by the House of Burgesses, with all the methods pursued in impeachment by the House of Commons, but that it did him no harm farther than keeping him at Jamestown until his trial was over. The real merits of the case can not now be ascertained.

and Order a special Warrant to take Fitzhugh till he gives Bond with Security for his Appearance at the next General Court.

April 25, 1687. A Complaint against Capt. Crofts¹ by several Merchants represented to his Majesty, Crofts having refused to appear.

Edmund Jennings's Attorney General's Petition for a Salary of 40 £ ꝑ Annum (his Business encreasing) out of the 2s. ꝑ Hhd. which is represented to his Majesty as reasonable.

Robert Beverley² being lately dead his Widow is Ordered to deliver the Assembly Papers and Records to Ralph Wormeley and Christopher Wormeley.

October 21, 1687.

James Collins Ordered to be Imprisoned and Put in Irons for speaking treasonable Words and to be prosecuted by the Attorney General.

¹Captain Crofts, commander of the English man-of-war *Deptford*, on the Virginia station, seems, like other officers who held the place, to have been a very unruly and rough fellow and almost as bad as a genuine pirate. The matter was carried to England, when Crofts and another naval officer, Allen, tried to defend themselves by making charges against Lord Effingham. The latter replied and on June 4, 1684, the Privy Council ordered the matter to be laid aside until Effingham's return to England, his good behavior and the misbehavior of the captain being evident. The ruffianly character of a number of English officers commanding ships on the Virginia station was frequently a cause of trouble to the colonists and to merchant ships trading to Virginia.

²Major Robert Beverley of Middlesex county, a native of Yorkshire, England, came to Virginia about 1663, and was long one of the leading men of the Colony. He was for many years Clerk of the House of Burgesses and was believed to have great influence with that body. Though one of Berkeleys most efficient officers in Bacon's Rebellion and his intimate friend, Beverley, during the last ten years of his life, was almost constantly the object of dislike or prosecution on the part of the governors of Virginia and the English government. His refusal to show the records of the Burgesses to the commissioners sent from England to suppress Bacon's Rebellion, excited great indignation among the English officials; he was charged with inciting the plant cutting riots and of being the chief cause of the opposition of the Burgesses to the Governor in the session of 1685. A detailed sketch of his life and an account of his family have been published in this Magazine, Vol. II, No. 4 and Vol. III, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4.

James Harvard committed for Slighting Colo. Lear's Authority and disobeying his Order and the Attorney General is ordered to prosecute him.

Christopher Berryman for disobeying President Bacon's Warrant ordered to beg Pardon upon his Knees.

All Probates and Administrations Ordered to be in same form.

October 24, 1687. A Negro Plot discovered in the Northern Neck and the Laws Ordered to be put in Execution.

Lord Howard communicates the King's Letter for reviving the Laws.

October 26. Lord Howard was this day pleased to declare that for reducing the causes depending in Chancery to a more methodical Manner than at Present he had thought for the future to Assign Order and appoint the 7 and 10 Days of each General Court to Sit hear and determine all Causes depending in Chancery and that his Excellency such and so many of the Council to his Assistance as the Weight of Matters depending might require and Ordered that all Chancery Bills might be filed 4 Days before the hearing and Answers 2 days that there might be no room for unnecessary delay of business.

Lord Howard issues a Proclamation declaring his Intention of going to New York for Recovery of his Health by Change of Air having laboured under a long and Severe Sickness and that the Administration of the Government was by the King's Instructions lodged in the President—then Colo. Bacon and Rest of the Council.

King James 2d Proclamation dated 4 April 1687 for Liberty of Conscience in Virginia (Published).

King James 2d confirms the Suspension of Phil Ludwell Esq'r one of the Council for Misbehaviour in that Trust and Orders Isaac Allerton to be sworn of the Council in his Room by his Letter dated 12 June 1687.

King James by his Letter dated 22d October 1687 commands that one Moiety of all Plate Silver Gold and Treasure taken from the wrack at Hispaniola to be reserved for his Majesty's Use the same being due by the Ordinances of the Admiralty.

King James 2d sends his Letter to the Governor of Virginia dated 13 October 1687 to this Effect Whereas we have received frequent Information from our Several Colonies and Plantations

in America that instead of a due Prosecution of Pirates that have been seized either upon the high Seas or upon Land, an unwarrantable practice has been carried on to bring them immediately to their trials before any Evidence could be produced against them and such other Methods of like Nature have been used, Whereby the most Notorious Pirates have, as it is well known by the facility or Partiality of the Judges been acquitted, therefore commands all his Subjects to seize all Pirates with their confederates and require the Governor to cause them to be strictly imprisoned and kept in safe Custody with their Ships goods and Plunder Until his Royal Pleasure should be known nor not to Pardon any Pirates nor Permit them to be brought to Trial unless upon Signification of their Crimes to us or upon the Arrival of Sir Robert Holmes (our Sole Commissioner in that behalf) Time and Opportunity may be allowed to all Parties Concerned for the bringing of Evidences from the Parts or Places where the Piracies or Robberies have been committed and that we shall have given such Necessary Orders for their Prosecution and trial as to Law shall appertain.

Lord Howard November 5, 1687 commanding the Law against Meetings of Negroes to be put Strictly in Execution.

Lord Jefferies C. Sunderland P. and others Signify the King's Command that the Governor Council and Assembly of Virginia Pass a Law for the Prohibiting the Exportation of Bulk Tobacco⁴ upon the representation of the Merchant.

Thomas Dungan Governor of New York signifies his Majesty King James the 2d's Instructions to him dated 10 November 1687 to build Forts for the Defence of that Country and to the Assistance of the Neighbouring Governments in defraying the Expences, and desires that Virginia would contribute, Pennsylv-

⁴When the Assembly met this order was laid before it, but instead of passing the act required, the House of Burgesses proceeded to demand the redress of a number of grievances and the Assembly was dissolved without taking action on bulk tobacco. In 1692, the English Privy Council, again at the suggestion of the merchants, directed the colonial governors to recommend to their assemblies the passage of such an act. No such law was passed, as in acts of 1705 and later are frequent references to the export of tobacco in bulk. But no doubt almost all of the Virginia tobacco was exported in cask.

vania E. and W. Jersey being new settlers no great Matter could be expected from them and Maryland, Boston and Connecticut were to furnish Six hundred Men and that they had expended last Year above 10000 £.

Auditor Bacon resigns his Office and King James 2d by his Letter dated 4 December 1687 directs Wm. Byrd Esq'r to be sworn into his Place giving Security.

King James 2d sends a Over a Seal⁵ for this Colony Engraven with his Royal Effigies sitting in his Royal Robes enthroned having on each Side a Landskip, and upon the Canopy (which is supported by two Angels and a Cherubim over head) this Motto Endat Virginia Quintum with his Royal Titles on the Circumference and on the other side his Royal Coat of Arms with the Garter grown supporters and the motto, with this inscription on the Circumference Sigitum Domini Nostr. Vigin. in America and by his Letter dated 18th December 1687 directs the same to be used in the Sealing all Patents and Public Grants of Land and all Public Acts and Instruments which shall be made and passed in his Name and for his Service within this Colony.

February 6, 1687. Writs issued to summon an Assembly to meet 19 April 1688 upon the Occasion of the King's Pleasure about Bulk Tobacco.

An Address Ordered to the King for his Indulgence of Liberty of Conscience,⁶ Colo. Bridger being dead Colo. John Armstead recommended to be of the Council in his Room Patrick Meyn Surveyor General.

Capt. Crofts having complained to Secretary Pepys against Lord Howard, he Summons him to appear before him, which Crofts refused. Patrick Meyn and Capt. Allen Justifie the Governor.

Lord Effingham by Writ dated 17 February 1687 Summons

⁵The Virginia State Library has, at the time of writing, an elaborate and fully illustrated monograph on the seals of the Colony and State, nearly ready for the press. It may have been published by the time this Magazine is issued.

⁶James II's famous "Declaration for liberty of conscience," published April 4, 1678.

an Assembly to meet on the 19 April 1688 by his Majesty's Express commands and commands the Sherifs to Elect two Burgesses in every County.

And Prorogues it to the 24 April by reason of his Lordship's Sickness.

April 25, 1688. Francis Page¹ appointed Clerk of the House of Burgesses.

The Council desire the King to accept of the Lives and fortune of his Subjects here for the inestimable Honour of a Glorious Seal sent hither.

Council complain of the Incroachments of North Carolina and that it may occasion a Fraud in the Customs of Tobacco which may easily be exported at Corratuck—which while it was under the Government of Virginia was prudently prevented by Mr. Patrick Meyn who had appointed an Inhabitant of Virginia Collector there.

Governor unites Westover and Jordan's Parish by consent of the Parishoners.

COMMISSION OF THE GENERAL COURT, OCTOBER 3, 1685.

Jacobus secundus. Dei gratiæ Angliæ Scotiæ Franciæ et Hiberniæ Rex Fidei Defensor &c. Delectis et Fidelibus nostris Nathanieli Bacon Nicholas Spencer Roberto Smith Josepho Bridger Willielmo Cole Philipo Ludwell Johanni Custis Richardo Lee Radulpho Wormeley Johanni Page Willielmo Byrd Christophero Wormeley & Johanni Lear Armigeris Salutem; sciatis quod assignavimus vos et Aliquos tres vel plures vestrum quorum aliquem vestrum vos præfatum Nathanielem Bacon Nicholaum Spencer Robertum Smith Josephum Bridger Willielmum Cole Phillipum Ludwell Johannem Custis Richardum Lee Radulphum Wormeley Johannem Page Willielmum Byrd Christopherum Wormeley unum isse Volumus Justitiaros Nostros ad

¹Francis Page, eldest son of Col. John Page, of the Middle Plantation, first of that family in Virginia, was Clerk of the House of Burgesses until his death in 1692. He married Mary, daughter of Governor Edward Digges, and had one child, Elizabeth, who married her cousin, John Page of York county, and died November 12, 1702, in her twentieth year. See Page's *Page Family*, 40-47.

inquirendum per Sacramentum proborum et legalium hominum de Plantationæ nostræ Virginiae ac aliis viis modiis et mediis quibus melius Sciventis aut Potentes tam infra Libertatis quam extra Per quos rei veritas melius scire Poterit et inquiri de quibus cunque prodictionibus, misprisionibus proditoriis insurrectionibus rebellionibus Contrafacturis tonsuriis loturiis falsis fabricatienibus et aliis falsitatibus monatæ hujus Regni nostri Angliæ et aliorum Regnorum scive Dominorum quorum cunque ac de quibuscunque Murdriis, feloniis, homicidiis, intersectionibus, Burglariis raptibus mulierum Congregationibus et conventiculis illicitis Verborum propalatienibus coadminatiaribus misprisionibus Confederationibus falsis alleganciis Transgressionibus Riotis routis retentionibus Escapiis Contemptibus, falsitatibus negligenciis conclamentis manutinentibus oppressionibus Cambe (?) parciis deceptionibus et aliis Malefactis Offensis et Injuriis quibus cunque necnon necessariis corundem infra Plantationem predictam tam infra Libertatis tam extra perquoscunque et qualitercunque habita facta Commissa sive perpetrata vel per quos vel per quem cui vel quibus quando qualiter et quomodo ac de aliis articulis et circumstantiis præmissa et eorum quod libet sen eorum aliquod vel aliquo qualiter cunq concernentibus plenius Veritatem et ad easdem prodictiones et alia præmissa audiendum et terminendum secundum Legem et consuetudinem Regni nostri Angliæ et ideo vobis mandamus quod ad certos Dies et Loca quæ vos vel aliqui tres aut plures vestrum quorum aliquem vestrum nos prælatum Nathanielem Bacon Nicholaum Spencer Robertum Smith Philipum Ludwell Willielmum Cole et Johannem Custis unum esse Volumus ad hoc provideritis Diligentir super permissis faciatis Inquisitiones et præmissa omniæ et Singulæ audietis et terminetis et ea faccatis et explætis in forma Predicta fieri inde quod ad Justitiam pertinet secundum legem et consuetudinem Regni nostri Angliæ salvis nobis Americanentis et aliis adnos inde spectantibus; damus autem universis et Singulis Vice Comitibus Officiariis Ministris et legeis nostris tendre presentium firmiter in Mandatis quod vobis vel aliquibus tribus aut Pluribus vestrum ut prædictum est in Executione premissorum intendentis sint consulenti assistentes Obedientes et Auxilientes in omnibus prout decet, Mandamus enim tenere Presentium Vicecomitibus nostris Plantationis Prædicta quod ad

certos dies et loca quod vos vel aliqui tres aut Plures Vestrum quorum aliquem Vestrum nos Presatis Nathanielem Bacon Nicholaum Spencer Robertum Smith Willielmum Cole Philipum Ludwell et Johannem Custis unum esse volumus eis scire faceritis veniere faciatis coram Vobis vel aliquibus tribus aut Pluribus vestrum ut predictum est, tot et tales probos et legalis homines de Ballivis suistam infra Libertates quam in fra per quos rei veritas in premissiis melius sciri Poterit et inquire; In cujus rei Testimonium has Litteras nostras fieri fecimus Patentes, Teste meipso apud Westmonasterium decimo tertio die Octobus Anno Regni nostri Primo.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

MISCELLANEOUS COLONIAL DOCUMENTS.

FROM THE ORIGINALS IN THE VIRGINIA STATE ARCHIVES.

(CONTINUED.)

WRIT FOR ELECTION OF MEMBER OF CONVENTION,
DECEMBER 6, 1775.

Edmund Pendleton Esq'r president of the General Convention of Virginia, To the Sherif of the County of York, or if there be none such or he shall refuse to act To the Clerk of the Committee of said County.

Pursuant to ordinance & resolution of Convention, you are hereby required to summon the freeholders of your County, & them only, to meet at the Court house at such time as you shall appoint for that purpose, not under ten days or above twenty, then & there to elect one fit & able person to represent them in General Convention during the absence of Thomas Nelson Esq'r their Delegate, and that you make known to the person so selected, that he repair as soon as conveniently he can, to the General